

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 ACDA-19 MC-02 CIAE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 L-03 AID-20 IGA-02 OMB-01 EB-11

COME-00 EUR-25 DRC-01 /120 W

----- 058347

R 281304Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1053

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4163

FROM: AMBASSADOR WOLLE MUSCAT

E.O. 11652: GDS

OAGS: MASS, MARR, MU

SUBJECT: OMANI ARMS REQUESTS: CLAYMOYES, GRENADE LAUNCHERS,  
SENSORS

REF: STATE 192424

1. AMBASSADOR CALLED AT DEFENSE MINISTRY SEPT 24 TO CONTINUE  
EFFORT SORT OUT STATUS OF PENDING OMANI ARMS REQUESTS. USED  
REFTTEL TO POINT OUT WHERE MATTERS STAND BASED ON USG RECORDS.  
AFTER EXPLAINING PURPOSE TO DEPUTY MINISTER SAYYID FAHAR,  
HE REFERRED ME TO DEPUTY DG OF DEFENSE ADMINISTRATION STAN  
SMITH, SECONDED BRITISH CIVIL SERVANT FILLING IN FOR  
BRIG. SEMPLE.

2. SMITH IMMEDIATELY NOTED THAT BOTH CLAYMORE MINES AND  
M-79 GRENADE LAUNCHERS ARE CONFIRMED OMAN REQUIREMENTS AS

FAR AS SULTAN QABUS AND SAF CONCERNED. ALSO REITERATED WHAT

BRIG. MAXWELL OF SAF TOLD US RECENTLY ABOUT SENSORS, NAMELY  
THAT OMANGOV NOTIFIED AEROMARITIME COMPANY LAST WEEK IT HAS  
DECIDED AGAINST BUYING THIS EQUIPMENT. AS TO DESIRED ITEMS  
FOR PURCHASE, SMITH STATED:

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A. CLAYMORES. PUZZLED AND CONCERNED BY OUR INFORMATION THAT BALL MAY STILL BE IN OMANI COURT TO MAKE OFFICIAL REQUEST. HE WILL AT ONCE CHECK FILES, BUT IS QUITE CERTAIN DEFENSE MINISTRY HAS ASSUMED EVERYTHING NECESSARY FROM OMANI SIDE TO PLACE THIS ORDER WAS ACCOMPLISHED SOME TIME AGO.

B. M-79 LAUNCHERS AND GRENADES. ACCORDING TO MINUTES OF RECENT DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING, THESE LIKewise EXPECTED FROM U.S. NUMBER LAUNCHERS REQUESTED IS 200 RPT 200.

3. BOTH SMITH AND EMBASSY BELIEVE KEY TO UNRAVELLING AT LEAST PART OF THIS CONFUSION MIGHT BE FRESH CROSS-CHECK WITH SULTAN'S "SPECIAL MILITARY ADVISER," AMCIT CHESTER NAGLE. ON LAST VISIT OMAN END OF AUGUST, NAGLE TOLD EMBASSY BOTH CLAYMORES AND M-79S WOULD BE FMS CASES AND THERE WAS NO PROBLEM ON AVAILABILITY. SAID HE INTENDED BE IN WASHINGTON BY MID-SEPTEMBER FOLLOWING UP ON BOTH MATTERS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE IF NAGLE IN TOUCH WITH STATE OR DOD ON THESE MATTERS RECENTLY, AND WHAT TRANSPIRED. IF NAGLE UNHEARD FROM, BELIEVE IT IN OUR INTEREST SEEK HIM OUT TO BE SURE HE APPRISED OF CURRENT STATUS BOTH REQUESTS FROM USG SIDE. WOULD GUESS HE IS IN WASHINGTON OR LONDON. WOULD NORMALLY NOT CONSIDER SUCH INITIATIVE UP TO US, BUT VISITING DEP ASST SECRETARY SOBER AND AMBASSADOR TOLD SULTAN QABUS SEPT 18 WE WOULD EXPEDITE RESPONSE TO WHATEVER ARMS REQUESTS ARE PENDING TO TRY TO BE HELPFUL. STOLTZFUS

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**To:** STATE  
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